



INDIANA EARLY LEARNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Child Development and Well Being Workgroup

Meeting Minutes Summary

Date: June 19, 2014

MEMBERS

Kevin Bain

Melanie Brizzi

Charlie Geier

Beckie Minglin

Tammy Veselsky

Alonzo Weems

ADVISORY MEMBERS

John Burnett

Connie Sherman

Attendees:

Connie Sherman, Ena Shelley, Jan Katz, Andrea Wilkes, Carrie Bale, Danny Kelley, Sharon Molargik, Rosa Hiestand, Nancy Swigonski, Megan O'Sullivan, Betsy Delgado

Key Topics Discussed:

1. Read aloud everyone's 3 statements about Kindergarten Readiness (KR)
2. Texas Early Learning Council document: School readiness for children and children readiness for school
3. A program assessment and the assessment of a child should be 2 different things using, 2 different tools.
4. Need to shift to asset-based thinking
5. Finland always scores highest on PISA, Why? Kids do project based learning (like IB program), teachers given time to work together and in teams, teachers paid well, have master's degrees, very respected, not so much weight on scores and competitiveness.
6. Reimbursement rates for Medicare so low, many private providers cannot afford to take those families
7. Discussion of KR by each group member for their assigned state
8. Washington State found a way to balance family choice with consistent quality (no matter what provider a family chooses, child gets same level of education).
9. In Indiana, there isn't a shared vision of KR, it needs to be stated out loud.
10. What we teach vs. how we teach (the *how* is more important)
11. To sell KR to the business community or legislature, there has to be black and white variables.
12. It is our responsibility to think beyond the Pilot Study
13. Discussion of ROI, investing in early childhood vs. not
14. Discussion of the ASQ assessment
15. Discussion of workgroup recommendations for the June 30th report

Key Questions Raised:

1. If we define where we want children to be, are we leaving open how it is that we get there?
2. Why not define Kindergarten Readiness based on the whole wraparound of the child instead of a standardized assessment?

Action Steps:

1. Ena will draft a definition of Kindergarten Readiness to work with during the next meeting. She will use keywords and sentences from what was shared by group members from their various States, and try to synthesize them into one message. Next workgroup will be spent discussing this draft and completing the KR definition.



Next Meeting

Date: July 15, 2014, 9:00a-11:30a

Location: St. Mary's Child Center, 901 Martin Luther King Jr. Street,
Indianapolis, IN, 46202

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